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THE
CHAMPLAIN
MONUMENT
AT
ORILLIA





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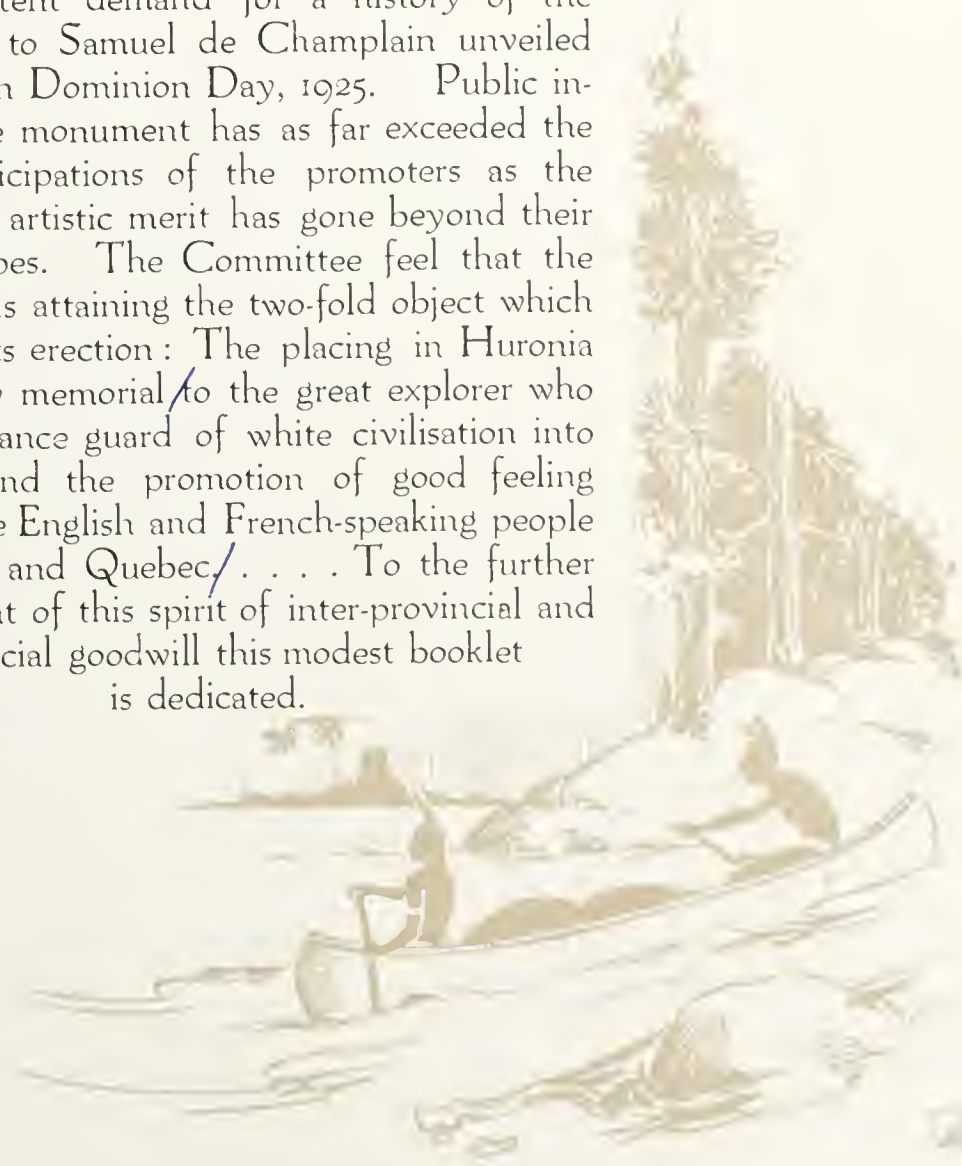
Orillia, Ontario
Canada
September 1, 1953

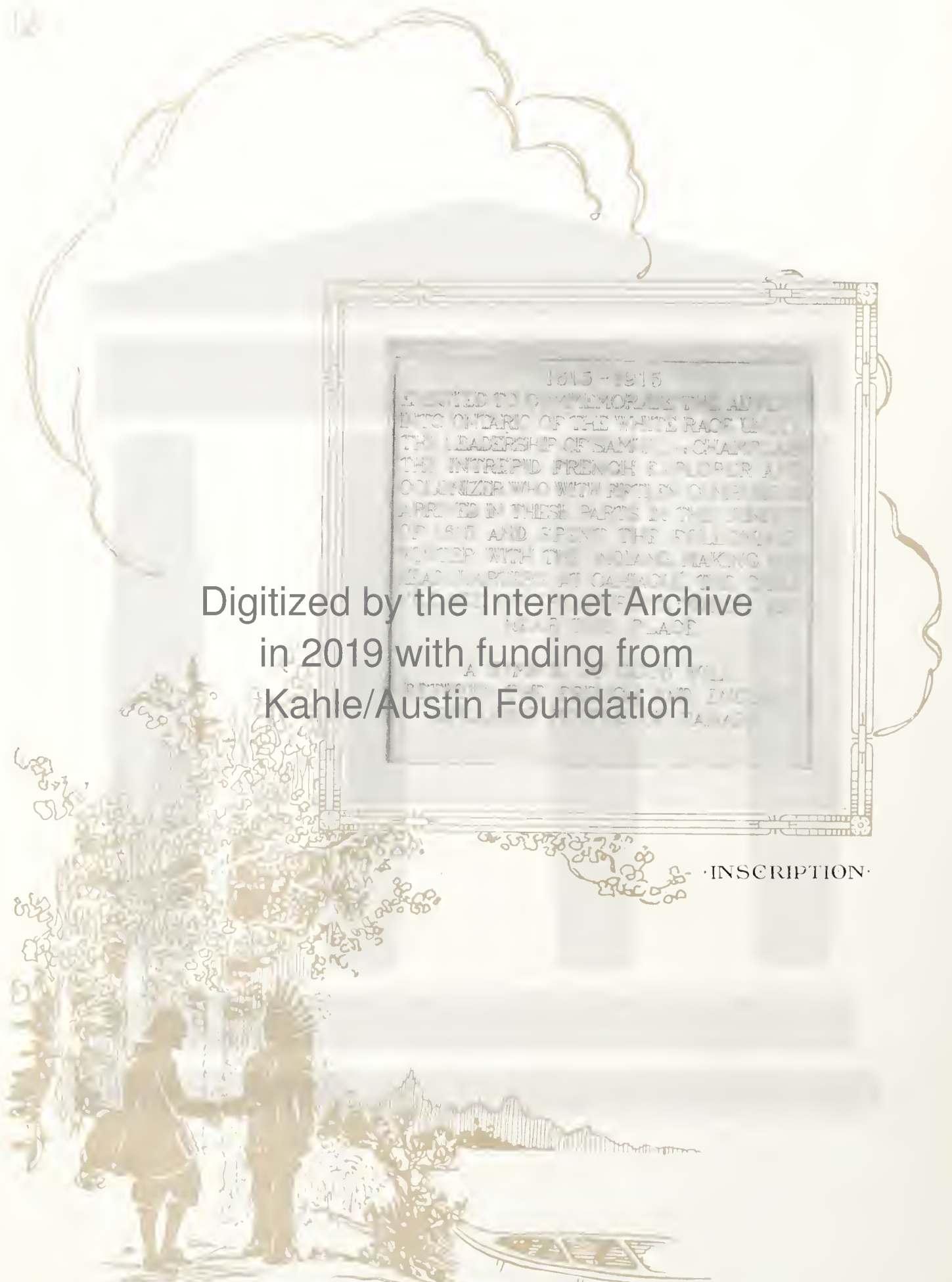
THE CHAMPLAIN MONUMENT AT ORILLIA



Foreword

THIS BROCHURE is published in response to an insistent demand for a history of the Monument to Samuel de Champlain unveiled at Orillia on Dominion Day, 1925. Public interest in the monument has as far exceeded the highest anticipations of the promoters as the praise of its artistic merit has gone beyond their fondest hopes. The Committee feel that the monument is attaining the two-fold object which prompted its erection: The placing in Huronia of a worthy memorial to the great explorer who led the advance guard of white civilisation into Ontario; and the promotion of good feeling between the English and French-speaking people of Ontario and Quebec. . . . To the further development of this spirit of inter-provincial and inter-racial goodwill this modest booklet is dedicated.





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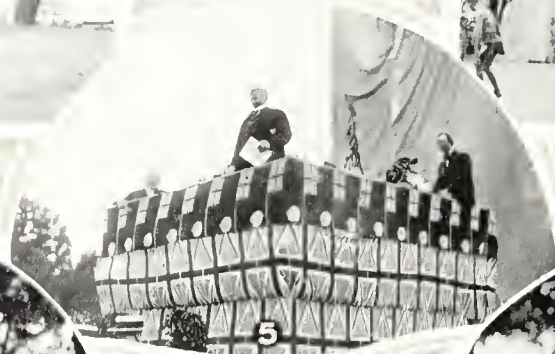
• COMMERCE •





SCENES FROM THE UNVEILING OF THE CHAMPLAIN MONUMENT

July 1st 1925



1. Champlain and Darontal, Huron Chief.
2. Vernon March and Three "Squaws."
3. Landing of Champlain.
4. "Adonwah" Dance.
5. Hon. R. Lemieux Delivering Oration.
6. Chief BigCanoe (age 94), Sir William Mulock, Vernon March and Ovide Sioui, Chief of the Hurons at Lorette.
7. Squaws Tanning Skins.
8. Milling Corn.
9. Gambling with Plum Stones.
10. Hon. Mr. Justice Fabre-Surveyer and Dr. Bedard, representing Province and City of Quebec.
11. Section of the Crowd.
12. Sir George Foster and Dr. John Dearnness, of London.



The Unveiling Ceremonies

By Wray R. Patterson, Publicity Secretary



IT WAS an inspiring and a fitting celebration that on Dominion Day, 1925, commemorated the advent of the white race into Ontario. Conceived on a large scale, with a fine appreciation of the dramatic possibilities, the unveiling ceremonies were well worthy of the epochal event commemorated and of the intrepid and noble explorer who was honoured.

The celebration opened at Couchiching Beach Park with the singing of patriotic songs by a chorus of 500 school children, massed in a special stand. Then came the historical spectacle. Weeks of patient toil of the Orillia Women's Canadian Club, linked with the directing genius of Mr. Roy Mitchell, of Toronto, were crowned with a pageant that must be placed in the front rank of historical reproductions ever attempted in Canada. With life-like similitude, the coming of the great explorer was re-enacted. And nearby on the grassy slope, Chief Ovide Sioui and three other modern representatives of the Huron race, guests of Mr. E. W. Beatty, President of the C.P.R., together with 10,000 twentieth century dwellers in Huronia, were, in imagination, carried back to August 17, 1615.

With over 250 men, women and children in the costumes of aboriginal times, the scene lacked nothing in the picturesque. There were children playing, braves loafing and gambling, and squaws busy at the work of the camp—cooking, grinding corn, tanning skins, or repairing canoes. Sometimes as they worked, the women took up an Indian melody. From group to group it passed, strange, rhythmic, intense music, crooned in unison.

Suddenly Champlain and his ten companions and Indian escort arrive in canoes, and the firing of a shot creates consternation among the women and children, followed later by curious inspection of their strange visitors. The Indians welcome their white allies with the festive "Adonwah" dance, in which the squaws croon

the thrilling, vibrant melody, while the braves, having planted their ceremonial spears in a circle, dance round them in stiff, jerky motions.

Then came the brilliant oration by the Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, Speaker of the House of Commons, and the unveiling of the monument by him. Following the ceremony, Mr. George H. Clark, chairman of the committee, presented to the vast assemblage the creator of the memorial, Mr. Vernon March.

In the evening the armoury was the scene of a notable banquet. There four hundred people listened to half a dozen speeches, any one of which would have been outstanding on any ordinary occasion. Here it is only possible to record that Mayor McLean presided, and that the toast to "Ontario" was proposed by the Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux and responded to by the Hon. G. S. Henry, acting Prime Minister. The toast to Quebec was proposed by the Rt. Hon. Sir William Mulock, Chief Justice of Ontario, in French and English, and was eloquently responded to by the Hon. Mr. Justice Fabre-Surveyer, representing the Government of Quebec, and by Dr. P. H. Bedard, representing the ancient city of Quebec. "Canada" was proposed by Dr. Stephen Leacock, whose summer home is at Orillia, and drew from Sir George Foster a masterly response. The speeches, like the music of the Huntsville Band in the afternoon, were successfully broadcast by remote control by C.F.C.A., Toronto.

Meanwhile, from all the surrounding district crowds poured in to Orillia by automobile; and a throng estimated at 18,000 gathered in Couchiching Beach Park for the evening programme there. The famous Anglo-Canadian Concert Band of Huntsville, the leading organisation of its kind in Canada again delighted the vast crowd. An elaborate pyrotechnic display brought to a close an inter-provincial celebration which worthily honoured the first great Canadian, and contributed, it is hoped, to the promotion of national unity and good-will.

The Story of The Monument

By C. Harold Hale, Corresponding Secretary



THE Champlain Monument at Orillia had its genesis in the visit of the writer to St. John, New Brunswick, and Quebec, in the summer of 1912. There he saw the monuments erected to commemorate Champlain's connection with those cities; and it occurred to the traveller that it would be appropriate that Ontario should pay a tribute to the man whose vision and energy first brought representatives of the white race into Ontario. The logical location for the memorial seemed to be Orillia, the town nearest to the site of Cahiague, the capital of the Huron nation.

The idea was presented to the officers of the Orillia Canadian Club, and the project was officially launched by that body at a meeting held on the 6th of February, 1913. At that meeting, at which the chief speakers were Mr. John R. Bone, President of the Canadian Press Association, Dr. Fraser, Provincial Archivist, and Mr. J. P. Downey, resolutions were passed endorsing the proposal, and provision was made for the organisation of a local executive and of a national advisory committee. Upon the latter a score or more of public men interested in the marking of historical sites consented to assist, the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir John M. Gibson, becoming patron of the movement.

Having found that the proposal met with public favour, both nationally and locally, the committee next proceeded to test the possibilities of securing funds for the somewhat ambitious undertaking of a monument to cost \$20,000. They were heartened by the readiness with which Sir Thomas White, on behalf of the Dominion Government, promised \$7,500, and Sir James Whitney \$2,500 from the Provincial Government. Orillia Town Council voted \$1,500, Simcoe County Council \$1,000, while that patriotic Canadian, Lord Strathcona, agreed to head the private list with a subscription of \$1,000.

Satisfied that the necessary funds could be obtained, the Committee next turned their attention to choosing an artist. It was considered advisable to invite competitive designs from sculptors in Canada, Great Britain and France. The response gave evidence that the project had excited much interest in artistic circles. When the competition closed on the 20th of August, 1914, no fewer than twenty-two models had been received, or were on their way. Of these six came from France and seven from England. The exigencies of war caused some delay, but early in October, 1914, the "Jury of Award" assembled in Orillia to pass upon them. The jury was composed of Sir Edmund Walker, Chairman; Mr. William Brynmor, President of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts; Mr. Eric Brown, Director of the National Art Gallery, Ottawa; Dr. Alexander Fraser, Provincial Archivist; the Rev. Canon Greene, and Messrs. F. L. MacGachen, and J. P. Downey. Although some of the leading French sculptors submitted designs, the unanimous and almost instant choice of the Jury fell upon a model which, when the envelope veiling its anonymity was opened, was found to be the work of a young English artist, Mr. Vernon March, of Farnborough, Kent. This model, with modifications, of which the chief is that the side groups are in bronze instead of in stone, has been carried out in the monument now in Couchiching Beach Park.

A second prize of \$500 was awarded to a model submitted by Mr. W. Fleming Baxter, of London, England. This model, highly commended by the Jury for its artistic feeling, is in the Orillia Public Library.

The intention had been to have the monument ready for unveiling at a celebration to be held in August, 1915, to mark the three hundredth anniversary of Champlain's arrival in the Huron country. But the war put this entirely out of the question. The gathering on the 17th of August in that year (which had been planned for the promotion of peace and good will) was

The Story of the Monument (Continued)

transformed into a great recruiting rally, at which upwards of sixty of the flower of Orillia's youth offered their lives in the service of King and country, and over \$15,000 was subscribed as a "birthday present" for the purchase of machine guns, field kitchens, and motor ambulances. A modest bronze tablet was placed on the bridge at the Narrows, recording the fact that Champlain and his Huron allies had stopped there to fish on their way to attack the Iroquois. It was unveiled by the Hon. J. L. Decarie, M.P.P., then Provincial Secretary of Quebec, now Judge Decarie, of Montreal.

As Mr. March was engaged in the war, he was unable to take up work on the bronzes for the monument until after the signing of the armistice. But meantime he had been studying his subject. Meantime, also, the cost of bronze had grown tremendously. This difficulty was solved by a compromise, by which the Committee undertook to increase the contract price considerably, while Mr. March and his brothers agreed to complete the work for many thousands of dollars less than its present value. The new financial problem thus cast upon the committee was solved by additional grants of \$5,000 from the Dominion Government and \$2,500 from the Ontario Government, and a grant of \$5,000 from the Government of Quebec, besides smaller sums from other sources. Included among the latter were freight rebates of \$500 each from the Canadian National Railways and the Canadian Pacific Railway. The ultimate outlay on the whole undertaking has been about \$34,000.

The long delay proved a blessing in disguise. It not only enabled Mr. March to put years of study and maturity of thought into his work, but it also made it possible to deal with leisurely deliberation with the problem of the pedestal. This originally was to be of Portland stone and to come from England, but for reasons of economy and convenience it was decided to procure it in Canada. The central feature of the artist's design was a huge unformed boulder, which it was found impracticable to procure in one piece in natural granite, because of its great weight. After much thought and investigation, the difficulty was overcome by the use of Benedict stone,

the boulder, thirteen feet high and weighing forty-five tons, being cast in situ. The pedestal is not only a beautiful piece of work, which has excited the admiration of the most critical, but it is harder than natural granite, and being strongly re-inforced and weatherproofed, is expected to prove just as enduring. The contract for the pedestal was satisfactorily executed by the Canadian Benedict Stone Limited, of Montreal.

The names of those who have contributed to the carrying out of this great historical and artistic undertaking are a legion, and cannot be recorded here. But it would not be invidious to mention Sir Edmund Walker, Chairman of the Historical Monuments Commission and President of the Champlain Society, who was the local committee's unfailing counsellor in times of perplexity, and whose sound judgment, high artistic sense, and historical knowledge both the committee and the artist frequently found invaluable. His sudden death in the spring of 1924, just when the completion of the work was assured, caused deep regret among his Orillia friends. Others who took a particularly active part in carrying the project to fruition were Col. Alexander Fraser, Provincial Archivist, whose advice at several junctures had a marked effect on the character of the monument; Mr. F. L. MacGachen, Dr. Stephen Leacock, Mr. David Williams, Secretary of the Huron Institute, the Rev. Canon Greene, Mr. J. P. Downey, Mr. J. B. Tudhope; with the Executive officers, Messrs. G. H. Clark, Chairman; M. T. Mulcahy, Vice-Chairman; J. B. Henderson, Recording Secretary; C. H. Hale, Corresponding Secretary; J. C. Miller, Financial Secretary, and A. B. Thompson, Treasurer, and Mr. R. H. Starr, who supervised the technical details connected with the pedestal. Among the public men who have shown active sympathy with the movement have been Sir Thomas White, Sir James Whitney, the Rt. Hon. W. S. Fielding, the Hon. E. C. Drury, the Hon. L. A. Taschereau and many others.

Such is the story of the Champlain monument, which it is hoped will stand for generations as a memorial to the great explorer who brought white civilisation into Ontario, and as an evidence of the art and enterprise of the people of this day.

The Hon. Mr. Lemieux's Oration



The Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux

WE HAVE met to-day to perform a national duty which does honour to both the memory of Samuel de Champlain and to the great Province of Ontario. Orillia, which marks almost the western limit of Champlain's numerous voyages of exploration, has not kept to herself alone the halo of this memorable ceremony. She has invited the Parliament of Canada to delegate its Speaker to unveil the monument which reflects so much credit on the talented artist who fashioned it. It is fitting and proper that the nation at large should thus be associated with the tercentenary of the coming of Champlain into the interior of this beautiful region.

Well might it be said of the great explorer that he was not only the Father of New France, but in a sense, the father of Canada as well. That the present generation fully realises the heroism, the virtues, the wisdom of that master mind, is evidenced by the many statues erected to his memory at Quebec, Ottawa, St. John, on the shores of Lake Champlain, and here, at Orillia, in the very heart of Ontario. Indeed, the name of Champlain belongs not to one race only, but to humanity. His fame as a discoverer extends far beyond Quebec; it extends all over America.

More than three centuries have passed away since Champlain left Quebec to come here. Your monument vividly recalls the fact that trade adventure was not the only pursuit of that great pioneer and his companion. He often said that "the salvation of one soul is of more value than the conquest of one's enemy." All honour to those Frenchmen who, following in his footsteps,

lived and died for the cause of Christianity and civilisation. We glory in the fact that they are the pioneers of Canada. They planted here a new society in the principles of the purest religion; they subdued the wilderness before them; they built temples to the true God where formerly had ascended the smoke of idolatrous sacrifices; they broke the first sod where now extend fields and gardens, and stretching over hills and valleys which had never until then been reclaimed, can now be seen in the autumn the waving of golden harvests. From the farms, the factories, the villages, the cities, the firesides scattered in Ontario and Quebec is raised the joyous murmur of wealth—agricultural, industrial, commercial.

What lesson can we draw from this celebration? It has been truly said that men live in the past by a knowledge of its history, and in the future by hope and anticipation. If we look to our ancestors, contemplate their example, imbibe their spirit; if we accompany them in their toils and rejoice in their triumphs, we mingle our own existence with theirs, we live the lives which they lived, endure what they endured, and partake in the reward which they enjoyed. As we are allied to our ancestors so we are to our posterity. In a word, we are the living links between the past and the future.

We are assembled here to-day on this historic spot to record our homage not only to Champlain but to that galaxy of pioneers who encountered and surmounted obstacles of all kinds and laid the ground work of a great country. It is well that we, their descendants and beneficiaries, should record our sympathy for their sufferings, our gratitude for their labours, our admiration of their virtues, our veneration for their piety—but above all that we should solemnly pledge ourselves to maintain their traditions and principles. Divine Providence has willed it that the descendants of France and England should live side by side over the vast territory explored by Champlain and evangelised by Lalement, Brebeuf, Jogues, Dollier de Casson and

The Hon. Mr. Lemieux's Oration (Continued)

others. The fortunes of war made of Britain the dominating power in Canada. French and English have their respective qualities and failings—but it is no vain boast to say that they belong to the most liberal and enlightened nations in the world, the two nations which, from time immemorial, have been in the vanguard of civilisation. No one amongst my English-speaking friends here would deny to France the respect and admiration to which she is entitled. All recognise the brilliance of her literature, the unequalled gifts she has for the diffusion of ideas and ideals, the stimulus she has given to intellectual activity and the power she has shown of developing and refining taste.

And I, descendant of France, am proud to proclaim how old England has spread civilisation with unequalled speed and unsurpassed energy over the vast spaces of this continent; most of all how she has developed and worked out a system of free institutions, thus reconciling animosities which at one time seemed deadly, and creating out of those who have been bitter foes a united people.

May the event of to-day be an inspiration to the rising generation. Let them treasure in their hearts and memories the sentiments which are symbolised. And let us resolve that in this country, made immortal by the journey of Champlain and also by the martyrdom of the Jesuit Fathers, three hundred years ago, every man shall remain free to worship God according to the dictates of his conscience, and to speak freely the language of his forefathers.

In these days of threatened revolution, let us strive to assert liberty without licence, to maintain authority without despotism. Let us never despair of the future of Canada. If there is one chief characteristic of Champlain, it is his unbounded faith—faith in an eternal Divinity which shapes the destinies of men and nations alike; faith in the boundless resources of this

country; faith in the ultimate reward which the toils and trials of the pioneers would bring to coming generations.

Sir, if it be true that it is given to noble and pure souls to scan the distant future at that supreme moment when they pass to the great beyond, what a consoling vision for Samuel de Champlain, when amidst the sweet murmurs of the Christmas carols, he breathed his last on the 25th of December, 1635, in the old castle at Quebec!

If he saw, emerging from the colony, the unceasing tide of missionaries, explorers, *coureurs-de-bois*, invading the wilderness, planting a cross there, staking the strategic points where later on great cities were to flourish; if he saw them leaving the ridges of the eastern hills and opening the march through those reaches of the continent where lay the untrodden paths of the far west; if he saw the gallant soldiers of two rival nations engaged in a long war, each intent upon securing a lasting dominion over the destinies of the North American continent; if he saw St. George's banner replace, after a mighty struggle, the fleur-de-lys on the citadel, yet bearing in its folds those principles of justice and freedom which, in a country bred in law and ordered government, can be invoked by all races and beliefs; if he saw the union of those isolated provinces consummated by the genius of statesmen belonging to both races; if he saw those races now vying with each other to make of Canada a great compound nation, where the steadiest habits and sobered thoughts of each promote and advance the cause of harmony and civilisation; then, may we not fondly hope that Champlain appeared before his creator as a suppliant that Canadians might forever enjoy the blessings of good government and religious liberty, that they might partake the treasures of science and delights of learning and, above all, preserve that Christian faith of their ancestors who had journeyed by its light and laboured in its hope!





VERNON MARCH, the designer and sculptor of the Champlain monument, is the youngest of a family of seven brothers and one sister, all unmarried, who have devoted their lives to art. They live in a beautiful old English home at Farnborough, in Kent. Among them they carry out all the work of creating a monument, from the first design to the ultimate bronze. The Champlain monument was Mr. Vernon March's first big commission, but since then he has designed a number of war memorials, including the national South African war memorial for Capetown. The war memorial placed outside the Parliament Buildings, at Victoria, British Columbia, is a fine example of the work of Mr. Sydney March. The South African war memorial to the Inniskilling Fusiliers, erected at Omagh, Ireland, in 1906, was the first ambitious piece of sculpture attempted by the

Marches, but since then equestrian statues of Lord Kitchener, for Calcutta and Khartum, (by Mr. Sydney March) busts of Queen Alexandra, King Edward, King George, Queen Mary, Cecil Rhodes (for Buluwayo), Sir Edmund Walker, Sir Wilfrid Laurier and many other illustrious people have been done.

The Champlain Monument at Orillia, which has been acclaimed as one of the finest examples of bronze statuary in existence, has drawn the attention of the world to this remarkable family, and there is no doubt that the name of March will find an enduring place in the realm of art.

The engravings show the March family, Mr. Vernon March, and "Goddendene," the family home at Farnborough. Mr. Sydney March, who accompanied his brother to Orillia to set up the monument, is in the centre, behind Miss Elsie March.

An Appreciation of the Monument

Charles E. Fortier in "*The Blue Bell*"



OUCHICHING Beach Park, Orillia, the site of the Champlain Monument, is a spot which is noted far and near for its natural beauty. Seen from Lake Couchiching the shore line at this point is beautifully curved and just at the bend, back about sixty yards from the water's edge, stands the monument.

A gentle, grassy slope leads up to the six broad steps on each of the four sides of the mounted. Surmounting the base is a huge boulder. Uneven of surface, with rounded corners and top, it is strikingly effective as a background for the groups on either side. This boulder alone has a weight of forty-five tons, the stone work as a whole, including the thirty feet square base, weighing over one hundred tons.

Atop of this boulder, looking out toward the Narrows through which the great explorer sailed with his Indian warriors, stands the heroic figure of Champlain. It is twelve feet in height, yet the effect is the same as that given by the historians' word pictures of the soldier-explorer. He is shown as a rather short, solidly built man with a short neck, the cleanly cut, fine features of the face indicative of the quality of the blood which ran in the veins of the Champlains. Though strength, virility and pride are all clearly written there, the expression of the face is pensive, wonderfully human. He is shown in all the splendours of the court dress of his day, with cloak, long boots and spurs, his sword at his side, plumed hat in hand. The pose is an easy, natural one, and a sense of lightness is imparted by the cloak, which is blown back a little, as though by one of the lake's vagrant breezes.

On either side of the boulder are the groups representing Christianity and Commerce, the two essentials of the civilization which the explorer brought with him to the new land. Christianity was first preached to the red man in this corner of the world by the intrepid Father le Caron, whose

coming preceded that of Champlain by only a few days. It is therefore only fitting that the right hand group shows a robed priest with uplifted cross in one hand, and open breviary in the other, while at his feet are seated two stalwart Indian braves into whose ears the story of the Gospel is being poured. In the face of the priest is all the benevolence and the zeal with which those early teachers were fired, and in those of the listeners one reads the struggle of mind which preceded the acceptance of the message. In a wonderful way the artist has contrasted the æsthetic force of the cultured missionary with the brute power of the savage.

During his winters in the district Champlain travelled through the towns of the Hurons and their neighbours, the Tobacco Nation, winning their friendship, and urging them to attend the yearly trade at Montreal. Hence, the left hand group depicts the coming of Commerce, and here is shown the *coureur-de-bois*, standing bartering with two Indians at his feet. Here again contrast is used with strong effect, the sharpness of the trader as opposed to the more sluggish intellect of the savage. Though perfection of detail is evident everywhere, it is perhaps most noticeable in this group. The *coureur-de-bois* is a masterpiece. Flint-lock musket, powder horn and pouches, fur cap, pelts, even the paltry necklaces with which he bartered are all reproduced with an exactness which represents the most painstaking care and skill on the part of the artist. The tomahawk which rests on the knees of one of the Indians is an exact reproduction of the one which lies in the British Museum, and which was loaned to the March brothers for this work. The skins on which the Indians are seated are copies in bronze of real bear skins as are also the fox pelts on the arm of the trader, and the roll of beaver pelts at his side.

The Indian figures in both groups are well worth close scrutiny. Every muscle, every cord, vein and wrinkle is carefully depicted, and the racial characteristics of the features marvellously developed.

Champlain's Career



AMUEL DE CHAMPLAIN was born at Brouage, France, in 1570. He began life as a soldier. His first voyage overseas was made in 1599, when he joined a Spanish expedition to the West Indies, during which he visited Mexico and Panama, and first proposed a canal across the Isthmus. He came to Canada in 1603, as lieutenant to the Viceroy. From 1604 to 1607 he was in Acadia, with de Monts. Quebec was founded by him in 1608, and Montreal in 1611. In 1609 he made his first expedition to Lake Champlain, against the Iroquois. His deepest thrust into the continent was made in 1615, when he visited his allies, the Hurons, and joined them in an attack on their enemies, the Iroquois. This expedition marked the opening up to civilisation of what is now the Province of Ontario. The remainder of his life was given to the service of Canada, and he spent the greater part of his time in the colony, with frequent visits to France in its behalf. He crossed the Atlantic no fewer than twenty times on these missions. It was largely due to his exertions that Canada was restored to France in 1632, after the capture of Quebec by Sir David Kirke in 1629. Champlain returned to Canada as Governor in 1633, and died at Quebec on Christmas Day, 1635, honoured and beloved. He was married on December 30, 1610, to Helen Boulle, who at the time was only twelve years of age, and did not join him in Canada till 1620. She remained in the country only four years. Some years after his death, she entered a convent, and died on December 20, 1654, at the age of 56. They had no children.

A Tribute to Champlain

The Rev. E. F. Slafter, in his Introduction to "Voyages of Samuel de Champlain."



HE explorations made by Champlain early and late, the organisation and planting of his colonies, the resistance of avaricious corporations, the holding of numerous savage tribes in friendly alliance, the daily administration of the affairs of the colony, of the savages, and of the corporation in France, to the eminent satisfaction of all generous and noble-minded patrons, and this for a period of more than thirty years, are proof of an extraordinary combination of mental and moral qualities. Without impulsiveness, his warm and tender sympathies imparted to him an unusual power and influence over other men. He was wise, modest and judicious in council, prompt, vigorous and practical in administration, simple and frugal in his mode of life, persistent and unyielding in the execution of his plans, brave and valiant in danger, unselfish, honest and conscientious in the discharge of duty. These qualities, rare in combination, were always conspicuous in Champlain, and justly entitle him to the respect and admiration of mankind.

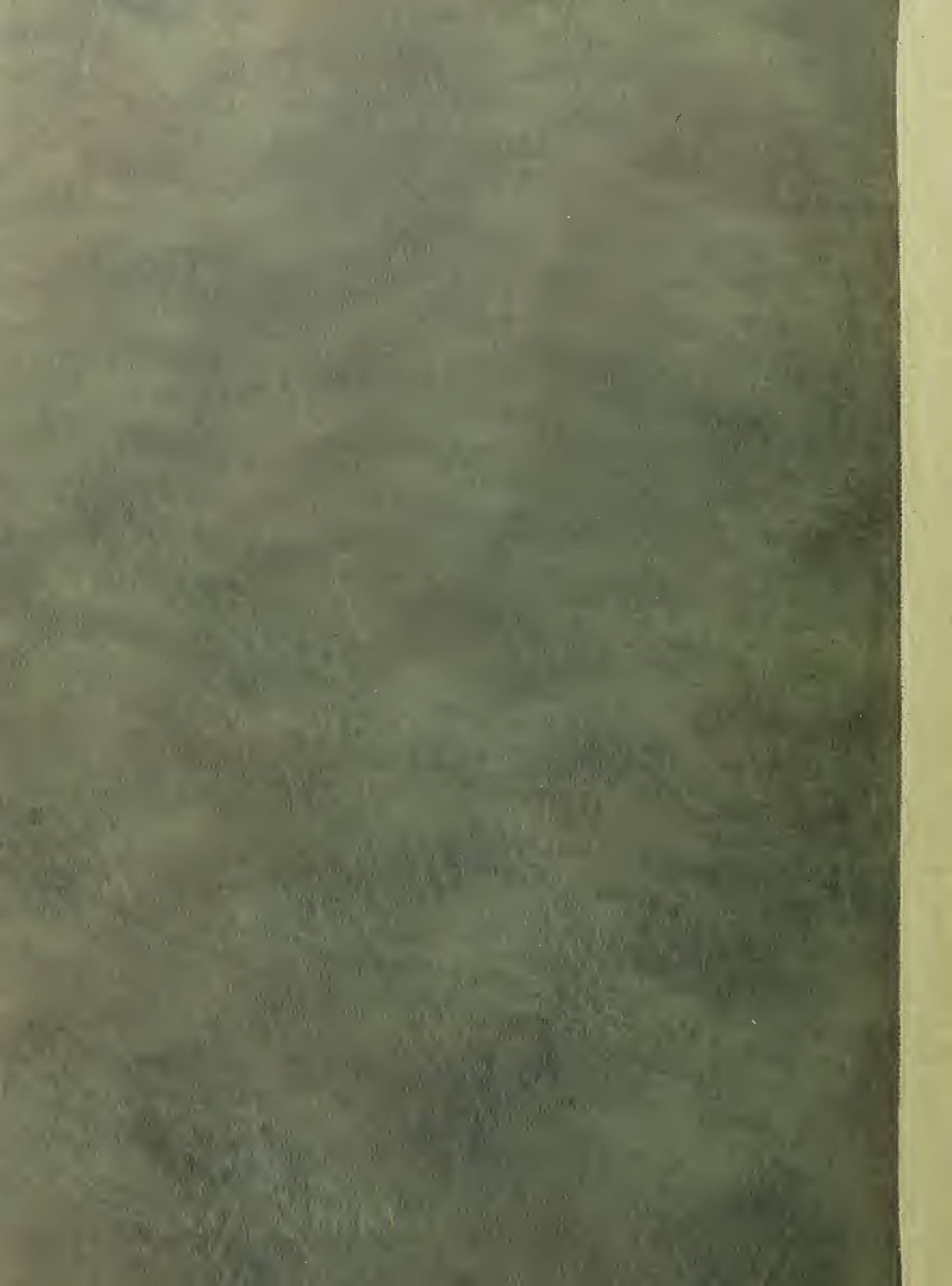
Chronology of Champlain's Visit to Ontario in 1615-16

- APRIL 24, 1615—Sails from Honfleur, France.
- MAY 25—Lands at Tadousac.
- JUNE 24—First mass since Cartier's time said in Province of Quebec by Father Jamet at Riviere des Prairies, Champlain being present.
- JULY 1—Father Joseph Le Caron, with 12 Frenchmen, sets out with the Indians for the Huron country.
- JULY 9—Champlain follows, with Etienne Brule (his interpreter), one Frenchman and ten Indians.
- JULY 29—First sees "Mer Douce," the Fresh Water Sea of the Hurons.
- AUG. 1—Champlain lands at Thunder Bay, near Penetanguishene.
- AUG. 12—First mass said in Ontario by Father Le Caron, at Carhagouha.
- AUG. 17—Champlain arrives at Cahiague, "the principal village of the country, where are 20 pretty large cabins"—estimated to contain 2,000 souls. "It was situated," says Dionne, "near the Lake Ouentaron, now Lake Simcoe, at the northern extremity, near the town of Orillia."
- SEPT. 1—Champlain sets out with the Hurons on the expedition against the Iroquois. A stop was made at the Narrows to fish. After skirting Lake Simcoe, they portaged to Balsam Lake, and, went down the Trent waterway.
- OCT. 10—Arrival at first Iroquois town. Champlain wounded in the attack, which failed because the Indians refused to act on his advice.
- OCT. 10—Hurons begin their retreat.
- OCT. 18—Hurons reach Lake Ontario, but refuse Champlain the promised guides back to Quebec.
- DEC. 23.—Champlain and party reach Cahiague, where he becomes the guest of Darontal, the chief of the Arendarrhons, or Tribe de la Roche.
- JAN. 14, 1616—Champlain sets out to visit the Tobacco Nation (Petuns) and other tribes in West Simcoe and the the counties of Grey, Bruce and Dufferin. He is recalled to Cahiague to settle a quarrel between the Algonquins and the Hurons, over an Iroquois prisoner. He holds a great trial, and finally settles the dispute satisfactorily.
- MAY 20—After spending the remainder of the winter at Cahiague, Champlain sets out on the return journey, his host accompanying him.
- JULY 11—Champlain arrives at Quebec.
- AUG. 3—Sails for France.
- SEPT. 10—Arrives at Honfleur.



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Champlain Tercentenary Committee.
The Champlain monument at
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